

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
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O 181352Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7998
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MASERU IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, PGOV, PEPR, PFOR, GE, UN, US
SUBJECT: WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL
- DISCRIMINATION: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY VANCE TO
- THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF LESOTHO

REF: STATE 207658 (NOTAL)

1. I MET LESOTHO FOREIGN MINISTER C. D. MOLAPO ON AUG. 18 AT SCHOENEFELD AIRPORT JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE GDR TO DELIVER TEXT OF SECRETARY'S MESSAGE REFTEL.
 2. IN PRESENTING MESSAGE I (A) EXTENDED CONGRATULATIONS ON THE ELECTION OF MINISTER OF COMMERCE M. V. MOLAPO AS CHAIRMAN OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, (B) EXPLAINED REASONS FOR OUR RELUCTANT DECISION NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE, (C) STRESSED THE UNRELENTING U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE ABOLI-
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TION OF RACISM WORLDWIDE, (D) NOTED THE SECRETARY'S HOPE THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD TAKE NO ACTION TO REAFFIRM THE ZIONISM-RACISM LINKAGE, AND (E) STRONGLY EMPHASIZED THE SECRETARY'S APPEAL THAT MINISTER MOLAPO DO ALL POSSIBLE TO ASSURE POSITIVE RESULTS RELATING TO THE ELIMINATION OF RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

3. THE FOREIGN MINISTER WONDERED WHY THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE HAD NOT BEEN SENT TO MASERU. I TOLD HIM THAT I THOUGHT IN FACT THAT THE MESSAGE HAD BEEN SENT TO MASERU. CHARGE STOKES HAD INFORMED WASHINGTON OF THE MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE GDR. IN VIEW OF THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF THE MATTER, THE DEPARTMENT APPARENTLY FELT THAT THE MESSAGE SHOULD BE DELIVERED HERE SOONEST.

4. FOREIGN MINISTER MOLAPO SAID LESOTHO WAS IN AN ENVIABLE POSITION. IT WAS ONE OF THE FEW AFRICAN COUNTRIES THAT HAD NOT BROKEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND HAD GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY. AT THE SAME TIME IT WAS ON GOOD TERMS WITH THE ARABS AND WAS OF COURSE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO APARTHEID AND OTHER FORMS OF RACISM. HE SAID LESOTHO HAD REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO THE ZIONSIM-RACISM ISSUE.

5. MOLAPO TOLD ME HE WAS DEPARTING FOR LONDON AND WOULD TELEPHONE MINISTER OF COMMERCE M. V. MOLAPO IN GENEVA TONIGHT, AUGUST 18. TOMORROW, AUGUST 19, MOLAPO PROMISED ME HE WOULD CALL PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN; BY SUNDAY HE PLANS TO CONVEY A SUBSTANTIVE MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY.

6. I EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO MOLAPO FOR HIS COOPERATION AND REQUESTED THAT HE CONVEY MY WARM PERSONAL GREETINGS TO KING MOSHOESHOE II AND PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN. BOLEN

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: SHUM, PGOV, PEPR, PFOR, GC, US, XX, UN
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